Are you shipping hazardous materials? - [presentation](#)

Shipping Biological Specimens? Contact EH&S at 7-2273

- Category A infectious substances

General

- The US Department of Transportation (DOT) has detailed regulations related to the shipment of hazardous materials.
- Stiff penalties can result from failure to abide by the regulations.
- It is crucial to properly package and ship hazardous materials and to provide adequate training for responsible personnel.
- DOT has established rules which require training employees (“hazmat employees”) involved with shipment or receipt of hazardous materials in commerce.
- All hazmat employees are to be trained in relation to the specific transportation-related function they perform.

Hazardous Materials Shipping Questions? Contact EH&S at 541-737-2273, or [email](#).

Who Needs Training

- At OSU, “hazmat” employees either coordinate, at a department level, the overall shipment of hazardous materials or they perform specific tasks directly related to shipments, including receiving packages.
- The hazmat employees who coordinate shipments are generally those which department personnel approach to have all materials mailed or shipped.
- These hazmat employees need to have basic knowledge of the existence of the DOT hazardous material shipping regulations in order to recognize when they might apply.
- This safety bulletin is one aspect of that general awareness training.
- Hazmat employees who perform more specific transportation-related tasks associated with hazardous material need more elaborate training. These tasks include:
  - Packaging (or choosing correct packaging)
  - Labeling & marking packages
  - Preparing shipping papers
  - Loading or unloading commercial trucks

Hazardous Materials Defined

Hazardous materials, for the purpose of transportation, are those in one or more one of the following groups:

- Explosive materials
- Gases
- Flammable liquids
- Combustible liquids
- Flammable or water-reactive solids
- Oxidizers
- Poisonous materials
- Infectious materials
- Radioactive materials
- Corrosive materials
• Miscellaneous hazardous materials

Hazardous Materials Shipment Locations

• For the main Corvallis campus, the off-site shipment of hazardous materials should be performed through only three locations:
  
  • Mailing Services will coordinate shipments for hazardous materials which can be shipped via commercial package carriers.
  • Central Receiving will assist with freight shipments--hazardous materials not acceptable through package carriers.
  • EHS-Radiation Safety is responsible for coordinating radioactive material shipments, which must be shipped from the Radiation Center.

• In each case, the respective group will help with selecting the correct packaging and assist with package marking, labels, and preparing appropriate shipping papers.

DOT Requirements Simplified

• The DOT regulations stipulate
  
  o how a hazardous material is packaged (e.g., cardboard box, metal drum);
  o how the package is marked--what words are written on the side;
  o how the package is labeled--what colored diamond-shaped label is applied;
  o how the material is described on shipping papers, which are required for shipment.

• This information is summarized in a table in one section of the DOT regulations.
• Each hazardous material, or collection of materials, must be located on the table, and the respective specific requirements followed.

• It is therefore important to get proper information prior to preparing a package for shipment.
• If the wrong type of package is used, it will have to be packaged again.

Training Providers

For general awareness training, contact Mailing Services.

Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S) can perform training or supply appropriate materials for specific training in:

• Hazardous Materials Table
• Shipping Papers
• Packaging
• Marking & Labeling
• Placards
• Carriers